

BOSTON RECORDER.

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Vol. III.

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MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

of the ship Triton at this port on the 1st of February, 1818; from these we received our files of London and the following interesting selections:

Missionary Chronicle, for February

OTAREITE.

long been waiting for official news from our Missionaries in the Islands. We are at length gratified. On Monday, Jan. 28th, the following Letter came to hand, which confirms all the preceding and accounts received from individuals in South Wales. Idolatry is the prevailing error, and is fast being eradicated. The school is well attended. Many have been taught others. Many can read well; at least 3000 among them; and hundreds can repeat the Catechism, and the Lord's Prayer.

The Letter of the Missionaries has the pleasure of presenting the literal translation of a letter from the King of Otareite to the King of the Islands, accompanied by a present of a small quantity of the *public* ones being destroyed, and which he desires the missionaries either to burn, or to give to the Missionary Society, as they may see the likeness of the people which Tahiti worshipped. Mr. Marsden has forwarded the letter, and we shall probably give a print in a future number of this work. The following letters call anew upon the missionaries to rejoice in the mission cause to rejoice in the work of God. God hath done great things, whereof we are glad, and to Him alone be all the glory of our

Eimeo, Aug. 13, 1816.

FATHERS AND BROTHERS, the letter we received from you dated July 23d, 1814, and reached us on the 15th, as we have mentioned before. It was dated Sept. 5th, and duplicate of which, as usual, reaches this. We gladly embrace the opportunity of giving you a further view of the state of the Islands and of

At the time the above mentioned letter was written, the state of these Islands was full of confusion and uncertainty; the balance, as far as we could perceive, was nearly equal. It appeared very doubtful, whether the missionaries, who had taken up arms against the cause of the gods and the idols, would be able to maintain their position; and on occasion either the extermination or banishment of all who had embraced Christianity, together with our own, was at least from these Islands of Eimeo. The months of July and August, previous to the date of our letter, had been with us and our poor people a time of trouble and great anxiety. In the month of July we had set apart as a day of fasting, and prayer, and were joined by several hundreds of our people seeking mercy and protection from the gods, who had the hearts of all men, and to whose control all accidents and events are subject. It was a time of trouble with us; and we and our people did call upon Jehovah; and we thought there is no presumption in our supplications were regarded, and answers were answered, and according to promise, He did send us deliverance, not in the way we anticipated.

Some people at Tahiti, who had embraced Christianity, having providentially escaped and joined us at Eimeo, as we mentioned before, among themselves. The Atahou, having fought with, and vanquished the Poronuu, Tebaroa, &c. they, the Tairapu party who had assisted the Atahou, again among themselves, and driven to the mountains. There was a prospect of peace established; and the people who on the 1st of religion had fled to Eimeo to their lives, were invited to return to their lands; those things made it necessary for the king and his people, and those about us, to go over to Tahiti, and according to an ancient custom, to reinstate them in a manner in their old possessions. The arrival of the king, and those who followed him, at Tahiti, the idolatrous people seemed determined to oppose the landing; and soon fired on his party. The king's strict orders, the fire returned, but a message of peace was sent to them, which was productive of a change of several messages, and at length peace was issued in peace and reconciliation.

In consequence of this, several of the returned peaceably to their different lands; but still fears and jealousies continued on both sides, and this state continued till Sabbath day Nov. 12th,

1815, when the heathen party taking advantage of the day, and of the time when the king and all the people were assembled for worship, made a furious, sudden and unexpected assault, thinking they could at such a time easily throw the whole into confusion. They approached with confidence, their Prophet having assured them of an easy victory. In this, however, they were mistaken. It happened that we had warned our people, before they went to Tahiti, of the probability of such a stratagem being practised, in case a war should take place; in consequence of which, they attended worship under arms; and though at first they were thrown into some confusion, they soon formed for repelling the assailants: the engagement became warm and furious, and several fell on both sides.

In the king's party there were many of the refugees from the several parties who had not yet embraced Christianity; but our people, not depending upon them, took the lead in facing the enemy, and as they were not all engaged at once, being among bushes and trees, those that had a few minutes of respite fell on their knees, crying to Jehovah for mercy and protection, and that he would be pleased to support his cause against the idols of the heathen. Soon after the commencement of the engagement, Upufara, the Chief of Papara, (the principal man on the side of the idolaters,) was killed; this, as soon as it was known, threw the whole of his party into confusion, and Pomare's party quickly gained a complete victory. However, the vanquished were treated with great lenity and moderation; and Pomare gave strict orders that they should not be pursued, and that the women and children should be well treated. This was complied with; not a woman or child was hurt; nor was the property of the vanquished plundered. The bodies also of those who fell in the engagement, contrary to the former barbarous practice, were decently buried; and the body of the Chief of Papara was taken in a respectful manner to his own land, to be buried there.

These things had a happy effect upon the minds of the idolaters. They unanimously declared that they would trust the gods no longer; that they had deceived them, and sought their ruin; that henceforward they would cast them away entirely, and embrace this new religion, which is so distinguished by its mildness, goodness and forbearance.

In the evening after the battle, the professors of Christianity assembled together, to worship and praise Jehovah for the happy turn which their affairs had taken. In this they were joined by many who had, till then, been the zealous worshippers of the idols. After this, Pomare was by universal consent restored to his former government of Tahiti and its dependencies; since which he has constituted Chiefs in the several districts, some of whom had for a long time made a public profession of Christianity, and had been for many months attending the means of instruction with us at Eimeo.

In consequence of these events, idolatry was entirely abolished both at Tahiti and Eimeo; and we have the great, but formerly unexpected satisfaction, of being able to say that Tahiti and Eimeo, together with the small islands of Tapuanuu and Teturoa, are now altogether in profession, Christian Islands. The gods are destroyed, the marae demolished, human sacrifices and infant murder, we hope, forever abolished; and the people everywhere calling upon us to come and teach them.

The Sabbath day is also every where strictly observed, and places for the worship of the true God have been erected, and are now erecting, in every district; and where there is no preaching, the people have prayer-meetings every Sabbath, and every Wednesday evening, all round Tahiti and Eimeo.

But this is not all, we have also good news to communicate about the Leeward Islands. Tamatoa, or as he is now called Tapa, the principal Chief, has also publicly renounced idolatry, and embraced Christianity. His example has been followed by most of the other Chiefs, and a large majority of the people throughout the four Society Islands: viz. Huahine, Raiatea, Tahaa, and Borabora. Two Chiefs of Borabora, named Tefaoora and Mai, have distinguished themselves by their zeal in destroying the gods, and erecting a house for the worship of the true God. The Chiefs of these islands have sent letters, and repeated messages to us, earnestly entreating us to send some of our number to them, to teach them also: and Mai, a Chief of Borabora, sent us a letter to remind us that Jesus Christ and his apostles did not confine their instructions to one place or country.

A war broke out lately at Raiatea also, one principal cause of which was that Tapa and others had cast away, and destroyed the gods. The idolaters were resolved to revenge this, and consequently attacked Tapa and his friends, but were themselves, as at Tahiti, entirely defeated, and afterwards treated with much more lenity than they deserved; but though they were then subdued, yet there is still a party at Raiatea talking of war, and the restoration of the gods; but it is to be hoped that they will not be able to effect any thing of consequence, as the great majority of the people

pleas appear decidedly in favor of Christianity.

Since the above happy change of affairs at Tahiti, brother Nott, at the request of the brethren, went over on a visit to Tahiti, accompanied by brother Hayward. He preached to the people in every district all around the islands. Large congregations assembled with readiness every where, and their attention and behavior was very encouraging. At the present time brother Bicknell is there, partly for the purpose of preaching to the people in the different districts, and thinking also that the voyage and journey might be conducive to the restoration of health, which is much impaired, and is been in a very precarious state for many months past.

The School, notwithstanding former discouragements, has prospered exceedingly, and continues to prosper; though at present many hundreds of the scholars are scattered throughout the neighboring islands, some of whom at teaching others in the different islands in districts where they reside, and through their means, some knowledge reading and writing has spread far and wide. There are at least 3000 people who have some books, and can make use of them. Many hundreds can read well, and there are among them about 400 copies of the Old Testament history; and 600 of the New, which is an abridgement of the four Evangelists, and part of the Acts of the Apostles. Many chapters of Luke's gospel in manuscript are also in circulation; and 1000 copies of our Tahitian catechism, which several hundreds have learnt, and can perfectly repeat. The Spelling-books which were printed in London, of which we had, we suppose, about 700, having been expended long ago, we had lately 2000 copies of a lesser spelling-book printed in the colony; these we have received and distributed; and here is an earnest call from all the islands for more books, the desire to learn to read and write being universal. We want a new edition of the above mentioned book, and are now preparing the gospel of Luke for the press. We intended to send the catechism and small spelling-book to the colony by this conveyance, and get 200 or 3000 printed; but having heard that a printing-press is sent out for us, we thought it best to wait awhile, notwithstanding the urgent call of the natives, as we wish to prevent expense as much as possible.

From a view of our present circumstances, our deficiencies, and the state of the mission, we rejoiced to learn that the Directors thought proper to accede to our request, and to add to our number, and that among those who are intended for these islands, there is a person that understands printing; we hope the others also are such as the present state of the mission particularly requires, and such as we have pointed out in our former letters, viz. such as possess a true missionary spirit, suitable abilities to acquire the language, and to engage in the immediate work of the mission, particularly to assist in the translation of the Scripture. If this should be the case, and our hope be realized, we and our people will have cause to rejoice for such a timely supply on the other hand, should the case be reversed, our disappointment and regret will be proportionably great.

[Several paragraphs of a local nature, uninteresting to the American reader, are here omitted.]

The present state of the islands makes us decidedly of opinion that there should be at least two missionary establishments, one for Tahiti and this island, and one for the Leeward Islands; but we are anxiously looking for the arrival of those brethren said to be coming to us, and for further information and directions from you, so that we may know better how to act.

We enclose another friendly letter of his Excellency Governor Macquarie; as also a letter from Pomare, concerning his family gods, which have been delivered to us, that we might either destroy them, or, if we think proper, send them to you. We have chosen the latter, and send them by this conveyance, nailed up in a case directed to Mr. Hardcastle. These are the king's family gods; and are a good specimen of the whole. The great national ones, which were of the same kind, only much larger, have been sometime ago entirely destroyed. Your brethren, &c. &c.

HENRY BICKNELL, WILLIAM HENRY, WM. PASCOE CROOK, HENRY NOTT, JOHN DAVIES, SAMUEL TESSIER, JAMES HAYWARD, CHARLES WILSON. To the Directors of the Missionary Society, &c.

TRANSLATION OF A LETTER FROM POMARE, KING OF TAHITI, (OTAREITE.) To the Missionaries.

FRIENDS,—May you be saved by Jehovah and Jesus Christ our Saviour. This is my speech to you, my friends. I wish you to send those idols to Britania for the Missionary Society, that they may know the likeness of the gods that Tahiti worshipped. Those were my own idols, belonging to our family from the time of Taaroamanahune even to Vairatoa;—

—Taaroamanahune lived some ages ago, and was one of the ancestors of Pomare's family.

† Vairatoa, one of the names of old Pomare, the king's father, and though a friend to the Missionaries, yet he was a most zealous advocate for the gods, and the old religion.

and when he died he left them with me. And now, having been made acquainted with the true God, with Jehovah, He is my God, and when this body of mine shall be dissolved in death, may the Three-One save me! And this is my shelter, my close hiding place, even from the anger of Jehovah. When he looks upon me, I will hide me at the feet of Jesus Christ the Saviour, that I may escape. I feel pleasure and satisfaction in my mind; I rejoice, I praise Jehovah, that he hath made known his word unto me. I should have gone to destruction if Jehovah had not interposed. Many have died & are gone to destruction, kings and common people; they died without knowing any thing of the true God; and now when it came to the small remainder of the people, Jehovah hath been pleased to make known his word, and we are made acquainted with his good word, made acquainted with the deception of the false gods, with all that is evil and false. The true God Jehovah, it was he that made us acquainted with these things. It was you that taught us; but the words, the knowledge, was from Jehovah. It is because of this that I rejoice, and I pray to Jehovah, that he may increase my abhorrence of every evil way. The Three-One, He it is that can make the love of sin to cease; we cannot effect that; man cannot effect it; it is the work of God to cause evil things to be cast off, and the love of them to cease.

I am going a journey around Tahiti, to acquaint the Raiatras with the word of God, and to cause them to be vigilant about good things. The word of God does grow in Tahiti, and the Raiatras are diligent about setting up houses for worship; they are also diligent in seeking instruction, and now it is well with Tahiti.

That principal idol, that has the red feathers of the Otuu is Temeharo,* that is his name, look you, you may know it by the red feathers; that was Vairatoa's own god, and those feathers were from the ship of Lieut. Watts [in 1788]; it was Vairatoa that set them himself about the idol. If you think proper, you may burn them all in the fire; or, if you like, send them to your country, for the inspection of the people of Europe, that they may satisfy their curiosity, and know Tahiti's foolish gods!

This is also one thing that I want to inquire of you: when I go around Tahiti, it may be that the Raiatras and others will ask me to put down their names; what shall I do then? Will it be proper for me to write down their names? It is with you—you are our teachers, and you are to direct us.—We have had our prayer-meeting the beginning of this month February; it was at Homai-au Vahi; the Raiatras and all the people of the district assembled, leaving their houses without people. They said to me, 'Write down our names.' I answered, 'It is agreed.' Those names are in the enclosed paper, which I have sent for your inspection. Have I done wrong in this? Perhaps I have: let me, my friends, know the whole of your mind in respect of this matter.

May you, my friends, be saved by Jehovah the true God. I have written to Mahine for a house for the use of the Missionaries; when they arrive, you will let Mahine know where the house is to be, and he will get the people to remove it there. Let it be at Uavea, near you.

It is reported here, that there is a ship at Morea and I was thinking it might be the ship with the Missionaries; but it may be that it is only an idle report. However, should the Missionaries arrive at Moorea, write to me quickly, that I may know. Let me know also, what news there may be from Europe, and from Port Jackson. Perhaps King George may be dead, let me know. I shall not go around Tahiti before the month of March.

May you be saved, my friends, by Jehovah, and Jesus Christ the only Saviour by whom we sinners can be saved.

POMARE, King of Tahiti, &c. &c. Tahiti Motutu, Feb. 19, 1816.

* Temeharo was one of the principal family gods of the royal family of Tahiti; but Oro was the principal national god, and to him alone human sacrifices were offered, at least in modern times. Temeharo is said to have a brother called Tia: these were famous men, deified after their death.

† This was in imitation of us; for during 1814 and 1815, after our monthly missionary prayer-meetings, we used to take down the names of such as renounced heathenism and embraced Christianity in a public manner; but since the state of affairs is altered in the islands, and the profession of Christianity is become general, we have thought proper to discontinue the practice, as now not likely to answer the ends intended.

EFFICACY OF THE SCRIPTURES.

ACCOUNT OF A REMARKABLE ASSEMBLY OF HINDOOS, NEAR DELHI, WHO MET TO READ THE SCRIPTURES.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Mr. F. dated May 8, 1817, to Rev. Mr. T. Calcutta.

I am more and more convinced that the inhabitants of India are nearly inaccessible to us in their present state, (I mean, with a view to their conversion,) from the gross ignorance and want of common rudimentary instruction which prevails among them; and the great means which India appears to be in want of at present, is a systematic plan of education, universally, patiently and industriously to be acted upon throughout

the whole of our territories. Only let the population have the power to read our Scriptures, and we have done them a kindness, the benefit of which nothing can deprive them of. The Bible may do its own work: that it can do so has been repeatedly proved, in spite of the melancholy forebodings and sensitive jealousies of the adversaries to its distribution.

Take an instance, my dear brother, which I think so well calculated to cheer our spirits. You know that Anund Messace is now baptized. I shall send you his history in the next packet. We have every reason to believe in the sincerity of his Christian profession, and we hope for many beneficial results from his real ability and consistent life. The other day he asked my permission to leave his little school at M—, to go over, for a few days, to Delhi; which was the more readily granted, as he still entertains hopes of bringing his wife over to the acceptance of the salvation of the gospel, as well as his brother and sisters.

During his stay at Delhi, a report was in circulation that a number of strangers had assembled together (nobody knew why) in a grove near the imperial city, and were busily employed, apparently in friendly conversation, and in reading some book in their possession, which induced them to renounce their caste, to bind themselves to love and associate with one another, to intermarry only among their own sect, and to lead a strict and holy life.

This account filled Anund with great anxiety to ascertain who and what they were; and he instantly set off for the grove which had been pointed out as the place of rendezvous. He found about 500 people, men, women, and children, seated under the shade of the trees, and employed, as had been related to him, in reading and conversation. He went up to an elderly looking man, and accosted him; and the following conversation passed:—

'Friend, pray who are all these people, and whence come they?' 'We are poor and lowly, and we read and love this book.' Anund, 'What is that book?' 'The book of God.' Anund, 'Let me look at it, if you please.' Anund, on opening it, perceived it to be the Gospel of our Lord, translated into the Hindoostanee tongue, many copies of which seemed to be in the possession of the party; some printed, others written by themselves from the printed ones.

Anund pointed to the name of Jesus, and asked, 'Who is that?' 'That is God; he gave us this book.' Anund, 'Where did you obtain it?' 'An angel from heaven gave it me at Hurdwar-Fair.' Anund, 'An angel!' 'Yes: to us he was God's angel; but he was a man, a learned Pandit.' (Doubtless, these translated Gospels must have been the books distributed five or six years ago at Hurdwar by the Missionary.) 'The written copies we wrote ourselves, having no other means of obtaining the Blessed Word.' 'These books,' said Anund, 'teach the religion of the European Sabits. It is their book; and they printed it in our language for our use.' 'Ah, no,' replied the stranger, 'that cannot be, for they eat flesh.' 'Jesus Christ,' said Anund, 'teaches that it does not signify what a man eats or drinks. Eating is nothing before God; and not that which entereth into a man's mouth defileth him; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man: for vile things come forth from the heart; and out of the heart proceedeth evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, &c.: these are the things that defile.' 'That is true; but how can it be the European book, when we believe that it was God's gift to us at Hurdwar-Fair?' Anund, 'God gave it long ago to the Sabits, and they sent it to us.' I find, from Anund, that these Testaments were circulated at Hurdwar, (I believe, by Mr. Chamberlain,) and falling into the hands of different people, resident in different but neighboring villages, they were found to be interesting records, and well worth the attention of the people.

A public reader appears to have been selected by themselves in each of the villages, for the express purpose of reading the miraculous Book; and their evenings have been habitually spent in this blessed employment; crowds gathering together to hear God's Book. The ignorance and simplicity of many was very striking. Never having heard of a printed book before, its very appearance was to them miraculous.

A great stir was created by the gradually increasing information hourly obtained; and all united to acknowledge the superiority of the doctrine of the Holy Book to every thing they had hitherto heard or known. An indifference to the distinction of caste soon manifested itself; and the interference and tyrannical authority of their Brahmins became more offensive and contemptible. At last, it was determined to separate themselves from the rest of their Hindoo brethren, and establish a party of their own, choosing out four or five who could read the best, to be public teachers from this newly acquired Book. The numbers daily and rapidly increased, especially amongst the poor; which at last suggested the idea of convoking a public meeting of all their congenial associates, to ascertain how many accepted their new doctrine. The large grove near Delhi

youth of our country. No

Particulars

INFORMATION

To Old Soldiers and Seamen of the Revolution.

MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT, ss. March 27, 1818.

All persons who may intend to make application before the District Judge of the United States, in this District, conformably to a recent act of Congress, entitled, "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States, in the revolutionary war," are hereby informed, that the said Judge will attend on such applications at the United States Court Rooms, in Boston, in the forenoon of every day, during the present term of the District Court, and until Wednesday, the 14th day of April next, (Sundays and the 2d day of April excepted,) and afterwards, at such time and place as will be hereafter announced.

It would be most convenient for the District Judge, and it is hoped, not unacceptable to all concerned, if the applications intended to be made to him, under this act, should be presented within the above-mentioned period of daily attendance. This intimation is, of course, applicable only to existing claims to relief, and to those who are prepared to present them. Persons of this description will perceive the interest which they have in conforming to this proposed arrangement, as every pension, which may be allowed by virtue of the act, is to commence on the day that the requisite declaration shall be made.

No petition or memorial will be necessary; and the directions of the act are so plain, in regard to the terms of the declaration to be offered, that applicants can be at no loss to comprehend what is required in that particular. The declaration may be in the common form of an affidavit, and it is recommended to have it prepared before the application.

It is also recommended to applicants to bring any documents which they may possess, or can, in convenient season, procure, tending to support their declarations. If, in any instance, from the want of such documents, or from any other sufficient cause, the Judge should not be able satisfactorily to certify, according to the act, he will, in such case, direct the applicant, in regard to the production of supplementary proof, and issue a commission, if it shall be necessary, for the examination of witnesses at a distance.

By order, JNO. W. DAVIS, Clerk of the Massachusetts District.

An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That every commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer, musician, private soldier, and all officers in the Hospital Department and Medical Staff, who served in the war of the revolution until the end thereof, or for the term of nine months or longer, at any period of the war, on the continental establishment; and every commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer, musician, private soldier, or marine, who served at the same time, and for a like term, in the naval service of the United States, who is a resident citizen of the United States, and who is, or hereafter, by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, shall be in need of assistance from his country for support, and shall have substantiated his claim to a pension in the manner hereinafter directed, shall receive a pension from the United States: if an officer, of twenty dollars per month during life; if a non-commissioned officer, musician, private soldier, or marine, of eight dollars per month during life: Provided, no person shall be entitled to the provisions of this act, until he shall have relinquished his claim to every pension heretofore allowed him by the laws of the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That to entitle any person to the provisions of this act, he shall make a declaration, under oath or affirmation, before the District Judge of the United States of the District, or before any Judge or Court of Record of the County, State, or Territory in which the applicant shall reside, setting forth, if he belonged to the army, the company, regiment, and line to which he belonged; the time he entered the service; and the time and manner of leaving the service; and in case he belonged to the navy, a like declaration, setting forth the name of the vessel, and particular service in which he was employed, and the time and manner of leaving the service, and shall offer such other evidence as may be in his power; and on its appearing to the satisfaction of the said Judge, that the applicant served in the revolutionary war, as aforesaid, against the common enemy, he shall certify and transmit the testimony in the case, and the proceedings had thereon, to the Secretary of the Department of War, whose duty it shall be, if satisfied the applicant comes under the provisions of this act, to place such officer, musician, private soldier, or marine, on the pension list of the United States, to be paid in the same manner as pensions to invalids, who have been placed on the pension list, are now paid, and under such restrictions and regulations, in all respects, as are prescribed by law.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That every pension, by virtue of this act, shall commence on the day that the declaration under oath or affirmation, prescribed in the above section, shall be made.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passage of this act, no sale, transfer, or mortgage of the whole, or any part of the pension payable, in pursuance of this act, shall be valid; and any person who shall swear or affirm falsely in the premises, and be thereof convicted, shall suffer as for wilful and corrupt perjury.

March 18, 1818—Approved.

JAMES MONROE.

THE EASTERN MAIL STAGE.

Extract of a letter to Aaron Hill, Esq. P. M. Boston, dated Newburyport, March 27.

"The driver of the Mail Stage, between Portsmouth and this town, was alarmed last evening with what he supposed to be an attack of one or more robbers, with an intention of stopping his carriage. On inquiring this day it appears, that a man who is believed to be somewhat insane, was travelling in the middle of the road, and it being very dark, and the horses going quick, they came upon him suddenly; and to clear himself, he caught the reins—notwithstanding which, he was thrown down and the wheels passed over his thigh, and injured him considerably.—The man is well known among us, and there can be no suspicion of any design to stop the stage.

"The man's name is Benjamin Fildes, and belongs to Stratham, N. H."—Daily Ad.

Amos Wheeler, who was several weeks ago arrested on the charge of passing counterfeit money, received his trial before the Supreme Judicial Court at Concord last week, and was sentenced to ten years imprisonment in the State's Prison.

[Daily Ad.

The Mail Robbers.—A letter from Philadelphia received at New-York states, that Alexander, made, on Monday last, a full confession of all the facts in relation to the robbery. He and the two Hares who were detected in Baltimore performed the deed, and all the persons apprehended in Philadelphia were accomplices in the plan, and sharers of the plunder. Nearly the whole of the money is recovered.

A man in a drunken frolic on board a vessel lying in Salem, Mass. has nearly killed another with an axe; he is committed for trial.

New-York, March, 25.—Numerous accounts from the South, corroborate the tidings that Gen. Gaines (the fourth in rank of the General Staff in the U.S. Army) has lost his life, either by falling into the hands of the Indians, or by starvation in the woods. The latter is not very likely; and we hope the whole is unfounded.

WAR WITH SPAIN.

Our accounts from Washington state, that the Committee on Foreign Relations, had a meeting on Sunday* the 22d for the purpose of more fully discussing the expediency of a war with Spain. What the result will be, it is impossible now to say; but it is most certain, that a powerful party at Washington, is in favor of such a war; and that the Spanish Minister Don Oniz, was so far convinced that such a step would be taken, as to make preparations for departing from the U. S. [Gazette.]

*We have much reason to fear the consequences of such deliberations on such a day.—Recorder.]

The U. S. Ship Hornet, Capt. Reed, has sailed from New-York, for St. Domingo and the Spanish Main. The gentlemen who go out in this vessel, are said to be clothed with extensive diplomatic powers.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

We have received from an attentive correspondent in Washington, the volume of Documents presented by The President to Congress, on our relations with Old Spain. They appear to be every thing but pacific. In the last of them Don Oniz has evidently remounted on his old stilts, much lengthened; and has departed still further from that temper which makes for just accommodation. This part has been met with great spirit, information and eloquence by Mr. Secretary Adams, in a note which occupies 27 octavo pages closely printed. As a specimen of its style and matter, we quote a few sentences.

After noticing some of the assertion of the Spanish Minister, particularly those in which he intimates that "the American government does not, itself, believe in the validity of the statements and arguments used by its ministers in support of the claims of the U. S. as asserted by them," Mr. Adams says:—

"To language and sentiments such as these, the government of the U. S. cannot reply; nor can it, without an effort, continue at all a discussion sullied by such unworthy and groundless imputations."

On the subject of the claims of indemnities for French spoliation within the Spanish jurisdiction, and which Spain has refused to admit, and has even declared they have been settled by France; the American Secretary says:—

"I am instructed to renew to you the declaration, repeatedly made by the Minister of the U. S. to your government at Aranjuez, in 1805, that no satisfactory arrangement can be made of the differences between the two countries, which shall not include the adjustment of these injuries."

With respect to the pretensions of Spain to certain territories which the American government contends are included in the cession of Louisiana to the U. S. Mr. Adams is thus explicit:—

"To all such pretensions on the part of Spain, I am directed to inform you the President of the United States can never accede. The President is willing to hope that the time will come, when your government will become sensible of the uselessness of resorting to them."

"With regard to those parts of the province of Louisiana, which have been incorporated within the State of that name, it is time that the discussion should cease. Forming part of the territory of a sovereign and independent State of this Union, to dispose of them is not within the competency of the Executive Government of the United States, nor will the discussion be hereafter continued." [Continued.]

UNITED STATES AND NAPLES.

THE PRESIDENT has communicated to Congress the documents which relate to the special mission of Mr. PINCKNEY to the Court of Naples, to seek a remuneration for the American property seized and confiscated by MURAT in 1809.

Mr. PINCKNEY made his demand on the 24th August, 1816—"explicitly and firmly, but at the same time without arrogance or harshness." The Neapolitan Court treated the reclamation with diplomatic respect, promising verbally to consider it as soon as opportunity was afforded to ascertain the facts; but gave no formal answer until after Mr. PINCKNEY's special mission had closed, and he had left Naples—which he did on the 17th October, and had proceeded on his permanent mission to Russia.

Soon after Mr. PINCKNEY left Naples, the answer to his note of the 24th August was sent after him, and passing him on the road reached Petersburg before he did. But Mr. P. refused to open it, and sent the packet to his government at Washington. A copy of it was afterwards transmitted by the Neapolitan Minister, to Mr. GALATIN, in Paris, who sent it to the Secretary of State.

This note, dated Oct. 15, 1816, is explicit, and puts an end to all hopes of our merchants of obtaining a remuneration of their losses from the existing government of Naples, unless force be resorted to, to which will not be.—The Minister (the Marquis of CICALA) says, that though at the moment the note of Mr. P. was received, the King of the Two Sicilies was in a situation to judge of the validity of the demand: yet wishing to examine and discuss it under the aspect of right and of fact, it was impracticable to reply to it until after Mr. P. had left Naples. He then, in the usual style of modern diplomacy, goes on to show, that the spoliation complained of were committed during the usurpation of MURAT—that the legitimate government of the Two Sicilies (Naples) could not be accountable for the misdeeds of an Usurper.—That the King had always been the enemy of the American property, was carrying on an expedition against him.—That indemnification had been sought for from MURAT, by the American Consul General; but had been refused to be attended to by him; and that the Neapolitan nation so far from being able to indemnify for the spoliation of others, will be exceedingly fortunate if they should find the means of compensating herself for her own losses.

The Minister then asserts, that granting the position to be true, that a government is responsible for the acts of its predecessor, the King of Naples could not be in the present instance, as the spoliation complained of were made by Napoleon, who, by a special decree, declared the vessels and cargoes to be forfeited for a breach of the Berlin and Milan decrees.—He adds, that the proceeds of the sales were never paid into the general treasury of the State, but into the private chest of the Usurper; and that they were dissipated in largesses to his favorites; in marriage portions to his relatives; and in supporting the oriental pomp of his favorites and adherents.—He concludes by intimating, that the American government is too impartial and enlightened to think of calling, after this knowledge, on the existing government of Naples, for indemnification for spoliation thus made, and property thus wasted.—[The documents occupy nearly eight columns of the National Intelligencer.] [ib.]

CONGRESS—March 18.

Journal Ports.

On motion of Mr. King, The President was requested to cause to be completed a survey of the harbors of Portsmouth, Boston, New-York, Newport, New-London, the Chesapeake, &c. for the purpose that two suitable stations may be selected for the establishment of Arsenal Ports, &c. and that the surveys be laid before the Senate, at the next session, with a designation of the stations most fit, in the opinion of the surveyors, for their establishment.

A bill (additional) "to promote the progress of the useful Arts;" and a bill respecting the transportation of persons of color for sale, passed the Senate, and was sent to the House for concurrence.

A bill to authorize a subscription to the stock of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, was taken up in committee.

[1.] the course of the debate which ensued, it was stated, that the estimated expense of the Ga-

nal was 600,000 dollars—400,000 of which had been subscribed, and about 150,000 had been paid and expended. Pennsylvania has agreed to take 75,000, Maryland 50,000, and Delaware 20,000 dollars of additional stock, if the U. S. will take 150,000. The balance is expected to be made up by individual subscriptions. Mr. Polkin, alluding to our "redundant treasury," remarked, that he believed it would not last a great while.—"The Spanish negotiation," he said, "was broken off; and the result of that business could not be foretold."

DOMESTIC NEWS.

BALTIMORE, MARCH 21.

AWFUL EXPLOSION.

Copy of a letter from Joseph Brighurst, Esq. to M. H. Niles, dated Wilmington, (Del.) 3d m. 20, 1818.

Esteemed Friend.—Yesterday I gave thee a very hasty and confused account of the explosion of E. I. Dupont's Powder Mill. The mischief began at the pounding Mill of E. I. Dupont & Co's, upper works. Several men were at that Mill, and one person discovered fire in the sleeve of one of the hands. He instantly darted out of the Mill—exclaiming, "we are all lost!"—rushed on the race bridge, and pushed a man with him into the water, and under the bridge.—This was all done in a moment, and the explosion took place while they remained under the bridge. The grinding house and Magazine were covered with a shower of fire, and made a terrible havoc of buildings and men. All the houses on a level with the works, were shattered to pieces—the fragments covering two acres. Mangled bodies and limbs were thrown in different directions, several hundred feet from the place of explosion.

More than thirty persons are missing.—My brother, B. Ferris, passed over the melancholy scene of ruins yesterday afternoon. He told me he saw mangled bodies, feet, legs and arms, in different directions, many hundred feet from the Mills. In the woods, more than an eighth of a mile from the place of explosion, he saw a long piece, perhaps nine or ten inches, and several broad—on the examination, he discovered a perfect ear attached to it. I state this to shew thee how the bodies were mangled. The loss of property is most probably about thirty thousand dollars. This is my own estimate, from my knowledge of the buildings and information of the quantity of powder. I wish it may be proved to be overated. E. I. Dupont's family are all safe, at least with very trifling injury. His brother in law, Deimas, who was supposed to have been killed, is likely to do well; his arm is fractured in two places, and his shoulder dislocated.

Our town was violently shaken, by the concussion of the air—and we were thrown into much alarm by many persons coming into it, and running down the streets, crying, "open your windows and come out of your houses—the magazine is expected to explode every moment, and it has sixty thousand wt. of powder in it." We concluded, very reasonably, that if the explosion of the pounding Mill and grinding house had caused such violent shocks, as we felt, the firing of the Magazine would shake and ruin some of our houses. The people remained an hour in the streets before the error was corrected—it was the Magazine which shook us so terribly. In haste, &c.

Philadelphia, March 21.—The following particulars of the explosion of Dupont's Powder Manufactory, near Wilmington, Del. have been received from the spot. It took place about 9 o'clock, on Thursday morning, in the Grinding-house. It blew two men 200 yards, one of them literally out of his slippers, who only sustained some bruises. A wagon, with five horses, was at the door of the magazine. The wagon was blown into small pieces; and one of the horses was killed by a stone; but the wagoner, after having been blown some yards, recovered his feet, and, by galloping off, saved himself, and the other four. The fire from the grinding-house soon extended to the drying-house and magazine, (each nearly 400 yards apart) and three explosions, a few minutes after each other, terminated this shocking calamity.

The windows, floors and roof of Mr. Dupont's house were blown off; but none of the family were injured. Madame Bidderman, his daughter, had her chair which she was sitting in, blown to pieces, but she was very little hurt! Marshal Grouchy, M. Dupont, and another, found a shelter from the flying stones, &c. under the heavy branches of a tree.

The loss is estimated at 30,000 dols.; there being nearly 25,000 cwt. of powder in the magazine. One large stone passed through the trunk of a large chestnut tree. Many trees were thrown up by the roots.

Eight or nine of the workmen's houses were rendered entirely unfit to be inhabited. The scene which the ruins discovered was heart appalling. The mangled remains of the killed were strewn all over the yard—here a hand, there a head, here a body without arms or legs, and so on.

"Here was a wretched mother distractedly carrying and dragging her orphan children while she was searching for the shattered corpse of their father. There sat another weeping; one who having found the blackened remains of a man was gazing upon it with wild anxiety to ascertain whether indeed it was the beloved being who but a few hours before had pilloved his head upon her now aching bosom. A little further, with clasped hands and streaming eyes, was seen a young woman who had just found the body of her father, and with loud cries was lamenting his untimely death."

It is ascertained that the whole number killed by the explosion of Dupont's powder mills, was thirty five persons, and six wounded.

FOREIGN NEWS.

London, Jan. 30, 1818.—The son of the Ex-Emperor Maria-Louise, by Napoleon Buonaparte, will take the title of Highness, and the name of Duke of Modlin. As the grandson of the Emperor of Austria he will hold the first rank after the Princes of the Imperial family.

On the 10th of Jan. the Legislative body of Frankfurt (Germany) decreed, by acclamation, the Abolition of Seritude throughout the territory.

The Military Contingent of the Germanic Confederation is to be 96,000 infantry, 16,000 cavalry, and 6,000 artillery. In war the cavalry to be doubled, the artillery to be tripled. The experience of the late war has demonstrated, that the artillery is the right arm of war; and all nations are taking measures for its encouragement and improvement.

The Duke of Wellington, after a short visit to England, returned to Paris the 1st Feb. with his lady, and staff.—He is charged with an important mission respecting the private pecuniary demands on France. Some late discussions at Paris are said to have satisfied the Allied Sovereigns that they cannot safely withdraw nor diminish their army in France.

The Algerines have no less than nine picaroons in full cruise in the Mediterranean, and seven near the entrance of the Straights.

A new sect has sprung up in Switzerland, whose doctrine is a compound of moderate Mahometanism, English Methodism and German Quietism.

WANTED in a Retail Store,

ALAD of about 14 years of age—he must be well acquainted with Arithmetic, write well, and have a tolerable knowledge of Geography.—Particularly attention will be paid to his morals, & he will be required to attend regularly on Public Worship.—Apply at this Office. March 21.

ORDINATION.—On the 25th ult. Rev. Saw-ven. WHITE was ordained to the Gospel Ministry, and installed Pastor of the Congregation in Williamstown, (N. Y.) Sermon by Rev. Mr. Townsend. On the 11th inst. the Rev. WILLIAM ELY was ordained to the work of the Gospel Ministry in Vernon, Conn. The Rev. Mr. Cook, of East-Hartford, made the introductory prayer; the Rev. Dr. Chapin, of Wethersfield, preached the sermon, from Matt. xxiii. 20; the Rev. Mr. Brodway, of Ellington, made the consecrating prayer; the Rev. Dr. Williams, of Tolland, gave the charge; the Rev. Mr. Strong, of Somers, gave the right hand of fellowship; the Rev. Mr. M'Lean, of Simsbury, delivered an address to the people; and the Rev. Mr. Parmlee, of Bolton, made the concluding prayer. The services were solemn and impressive, and a numerous collection of people paid a decent and solemn attention on the interesting occasion: The union and harmony of the people of the town, and their attachment to divine institutions, for which they have long been distinguished, continue undiminished.

MARRIAGES.

In Boston, Mr. Otis Parks, to Miss Mary Nowell.—Mr. Charles Page, of Roxbury, to Miss Elizabeth B. Warren.—by Rev. Mr. Mudge, Mr. Billing Clapp, to Miss Emily Whiting. In Salem, Mr. S. Curwen, to Miss Priscilla Barr.—In Portland, Mr. John B. Osborn, to Miss Mary Ann Deane.—In Newburyport, Mr. Theodore Libby, to Miss Deborah Cushing.—In Rowley, Maj. Paul Nelson, to Miss Sally Adams.—In Granville, Charles F. Bates, Esq. to Miss Julia Hubbard.—In Walpole, (N. H.) Hon. Phineas Henderson, of Chesterfield, to Miss H. W. Mead.—In Providence, Mr. Samuel Hadley, to Miss Susan Oliver, both of Boston.—In Millhill, (N. J.) Rev. David Bateman, to Miss Mary Cox.—In Philadelphia, Mr. Ths. Hall to Miss Maria Erben.

DEATHS.

In Boston, drowned, Mr. James Robbins, aged 44.—Miss Harriet Cunningham—Mrs. Susan, wife Capt. Edward L. Scott, aged 86.—Mr. Robert Ape, aged 47.—Mrs. Mehitable, wife of Mr. Aaron Butler, aged 27.—Miss Sarah Rust, aged 58.—Mr. Abner Gardner, aged 36. On Sabbath day, John, only son of Dea. John T. Tyler, aged 5 years. In Charlestown, Mr. Thomas Osgood, aged 50. Lieut. Nathan Eaton, a revolutionary officer, 70. In Quincy, Mrs. Prudence Cleverly, relict of the late Mr. Benjamin C. aged 80. In Watertown, Mrs. Dorothy, wife of Mr. Nathan Bright, aged 33. In Dorchester, Miss Lois Wiswell, aged 87. In Salem, Mrs. Catharine Stone, aged 35.—Dea. Wm. Ross, aged 78.—Mrs. Eunice Beck, aged 28.—Mrs. Mehitable Patch, aged 22. In Falmouth, (Cape Cod) much lamented, Miss Sarah, dau. of Nathaniel Lewis, Esq. In Worcester, Mrs. Bathsheba Potter, aged 69. In Millbury, widow Hannah Waters, aged 71. In Winchendon, widow Rebecca Goodrich, 81. In Portsmouth, Mrs. Ann, wife of Henry S. Langdon, Esq. aged 45.—In Canterbury, (Conn.) Dr. Walter Hough, aged 64. In Gloucester, very suddenly, Capt. David Pearce, aged 82.—In Barnstable, widow Elizabeth Chapman, aged 94.—In Rutland, Mass. Major Josiah Fuller, aged 57.—In Portsmouth, Capt. Michael Whidden, aged 87.—In East-Hartford, (Conn.) Dea. Barzillai Beckwith, aged 79. At Moulins, in France, on the 2d January the Rev. SAMUEL C. THACHER, of Boston, 31. Shocking.—On the 13th inst. in Lebanon, N. H. the widow Elizabeth Gould, put a period to the life of one of her children, 18 months old, by throwing it into a well. The child was found too late to be recovered. The mother said she drowned it for fear it would starve. Verdict of the Jury, that the mother was in a state of mental derangement. The family were lately from Hopkinton, and were in easy circumstances.

ORATORIO.

THE HANDEL & HAYDN SOCIETY will perform a Sacred Oratorio on THURSDAY (last Day) Evening next, 2d of April, at the Boylston Hall, to commence precisely at 7 o'clock.

ORDER OF PERFORMANCES.

PART FIRST.

Anthem, BY KESE. Consisting of Duets, Solo, Recit. and Choruses. Hear my prayer, O God.

Anthem—appropriate to Fast Day, BY PURDAY. Consisting of Recit. Duets, Trio, Choruses.

Blow the trumpet in Zion. Air.—Were not the sinful Mary's tears, BY SHAW. Anthem, BY DR. STEVENS. Consisting of Solos, Duets, Choruses.

Teach me, O Lord. Anthem, BY CHAPPLE. Consisting of Solos, Recit. Choruses.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous. Anthem, BY CHAPPLE. Consisting of Solos, Recit. Duets, and Choruses.

I waited patiently for the Lord. PART SECOND—from the Messiah.

Recit. & Air.—Comfort ye my people. Cho.—And the glory of the Lord.

Recit.—Behold! a virgin shall conceive. Air.—O thou, that tellest.

Cho.—O thou, that tellest. Recit.—For, behold! darkness shall cover the earth.

Cho.—For unto us a child is born. Air.—He shall feed his flock.

Cho.—His yoke is easy. It is expected that Mr. SHAW, of Providence, will introduce a New Song between the Second and Third Parts.

PART THIRD—from the Messiah.

Recit.—He was cut off, &c. Air.—But thou didst not leave.

Cho.—Lift up your heads, O ye gates. Air.—I know that my Redeemer liveth.

Cho.—Since by man came death. Air.—The trumpet shall sound.

Cho.—Worthy is the Lamb. TICKETS at One Dollar each may be procured at the Franklin Mission Warehouse, No. 6, Milk-Street; S. H. Parker's Circulating Library and at the door. March 31.

MR. BATES FAREWELL SERMON.

JUST received and for sale at the Bookstores of S. T. Armstrong, and Cummings & Hilliard—A Discourse delivered Feb. 15, 1818, being the Sabbath preceding the dissolution of the pastoral relation between the author and the first church in Dedham. By JOSHUA BATES, A. M. M. 31.

CHEAPER THAN EVER.

JOSIAH DOW, No. 56, Cornhill, near the Oct State House, has this day received from Auction—One bale Gingham, 18 per yard—500 pieces white Linens, which are offered at reduced prices, a choice article for Shoe and other Linings.—Blankets which are rather out of the season, and will be sold quite cheap—India Checks, 6 yards at 75 cents per piece—Long Lawns at 34 per yard. With a variety of other articles, which may be bought very low for cash. On hand, a good assortment of fine Shirting Linens, Linen Cambrics, &c. March 24.

NOTICE.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the Directors of the American Society for Educating Pious Youth for the Gospel Ministry, will be holden at the Hall of the Massachusetts Bank, on WEDNESDAY, the 8th day of April, at 10 o'clock, A. M. On the day previous, at 2 o'clock, P. M. a committee appointed by the board, will attend at the same place to examine the claims of such as may apply for the assistance of the Society. March 24. ASA EATON, Clerk.

